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**Current Terrorist
Threat Condition**

No Active Alerts

NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – November 2015

This monthly newsletter is published to increase NASA personnel awareness of significant current issues related to counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and counterintelligence cyber matters. To learn more about CI/CT awareness, or to schedule a CI/CT presentation, please contact the CI POC located on the last page.

Significant Counterterrorism (CT) Issues:

PUTIN: 20 TERROR PLOTS FOILED IN RUSSIA THIS YEAR

Intelligence agents have foiled 20 terror plots in Russia this year, President Vladimir Putin said recently, and asked officials to increase their efforts to prevent attacks.

<https://news.yahoo.com/putin-says-20-terrorist-plots-foiled-russia-115309155.html>



FBI: DOZENS OF TERRORISTS HAVE USED ENCRYPTION TO HIDE



FBI Director Comey has in recent months repeatedly asked tech companies to create products that allow law enforcement to access encrypted communications if they obtain a warrant, warning that strong encryption allows terror suspects to “plot in the dark”

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/s/84344/fbi-dozens-terror-suspects-have-used-encryption-hide-from-law-enforcement?mref=home>

Significant Counterintelligence Issues:

IN RUSSIA SPY CASE, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT MEMBER LOSES IMMUNITY

The European Parliament stripped one of its members of his immunity so Hungarian prosecutors can pursue an inquiry into whether he spied for Russia. A spokeswoman for the EU Parliament said she knows of no other immunity case in the assembly’s history involving espionage.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-10-14/in-russia-spy-case-european-parliament-member-losses-immunity>



REPORT: IRAN-BASED HACKERS SPY USING FAKE LINKEDIN PROFILES



A group of suspected Iranian hackers are using a sophisticated network of fake LinkedIn profiles to spy on unsuspecting targets worldwide -- including the U.S. -- according to a new report.

<http://www.secureworks.com/cyber-threat-intelligence/threats/suspected-iran-based-hacker-group-creates-network-of-fake-linkedin-profiles/>



Significant Cyber Issues:

CHINA CYBERSPYING ON U.S. - AFTER NO-HACKING DEAL

Three days after Obama and Xi Jinping signed a historic agreement to curb online economic espionage, the FBI issued a fresh warning about Chinese spies in U.S. corporate networks. China's computer spies are still targeting hundreds of American companies working for the U.S. military, prompting an urgent warning from law enforcement officials.



<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/10/08/china-cyberspying-on-u-s-after-no-hacking-deal.html>

KREMLIN'S TIES TO RUSSIAN CYBER GANGS SOW US CONCERNS



The relationship between Moscow and Russian cyber gangs may be tightening, spurred by international sanctions and disputes with the United States over military action in Ukraine and Syria, experts and federal lawmakers warn.

http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/256573-kremlins-ties-russian-cyber-gangs-sow-us-concerns?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=New%20Campaign&utm_term=%2ASituation%20Report

Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:

The introduction of Russian forces into the Middle East has made a confusing situation chaotic. ISIS is not the primary target of Russian airstrikes and has actually been strengthened by Russian operations against other groups. A new study shows that ISIS led or inspired attacks have increased 42% in the last 90 days, showing that ISIS continues to inspire others to conduct terrorism operations. ISIS plots in the United States continue and the FBI and DHS believes that more “lone wolf” type attacks will be forthcoming. Conventional and cyber espionage continue unabated, despite signed international agreements. Both Russia and China continue their espionage offensives against the United States and other Western countries, often employing surrogate contractors to conduct the operations. The NASA CI/CT division continues to monitor these threats and any others that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

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